

COUNCIL ON RECYCLING

c/o Planning and Evaluation Section
Bureau of Waste Management
Department of Natural Resources
Box 7921
Madison, Wisconsin 53707
608/267-7566

Governor Jim Doyle
115 East, State Capitol
Madison, WI 53701

May 25, 2004

Dear Governor Doyle:

We are pleased to enclose a copy of the Council on Recycling's 2003 Annual Report. Even though our report is no longer required, the Council feels that it is important to report the past year's accomplishments and our goals for the future.

2003 was a transition year for the Council. 6 of the 7 members began their first term on the Council in 2003. The members spent most of 2003 reviewing past Council actions and developing a list of priorities for 2004. The Council decided to concentrate on 4 major areas:

Computers, Televisions and other electronic devices: The Council supported legislation in this area and has set itself up as a committee-of-the-whole to tackle this issue.

Mercury in products: Subcommittee will be set up to address this issue. The focus will be on products and how they can be recycled or replaced.

Paper: Subcommittee will be set up to address this issue. The emphasis will be on expanding the paper recycling options and increasing the recycling rate.

Construction and Demolition (C&D): Subcommittee will be set up to address this issue. The focus will be on complementing the work being done by public and private, especially in regard to green building and green demolition.

The Council also discussed making used oil filters and absorbents a priority but decided that the Department of Commerce's Task Force was charged with dealing with this issue by the legislature at the council's suggestion. The Council does have a member on the Task Force.

The Council looks forward to working on their priorities and making a difference for Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

John Reindl
Chair- Council on Recycling

CC: Sen. Lasee
Sen. Panzer
Sen. Zien
Sen. Erpenbach
Sen. Hansen

Rep. Gard
Rep. Foti
Rep. Hundertmark
Rep. Kreuzer
Rep. Richards

Secretary Hassett
Secretary Marotta

COUNCIL ON RECYCLING

2003 ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared for:

Governor JIM DOYLE

and the

Legislature

of the

State of Wisconsin

Prepared by:

The Council on Recycling

C/O Planning and Evaluation Section
Bureau of Waste Management
Department of Natural Resources

MAY 2004

Questions concerning this report or the Council on Recycling may be directed to:

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Department of Natural Resources
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Madison, Wisconsin, 53707
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COUNCIL ON RECYCLING

Elected Officers/Executive Committee for 2003:

Chair: John Reindl, Recycling Manager, Dane County

Vice-Chair: Jeffrey A. Fielkow, Director of Operations, Recycle America

Secretary: Susan Hundt Bergan, Retired, former DNR Recycling Team Leader

Members:

(Note: The following members served until 3-31-03)

Jacqueline Moore Bowles, Chief Executive Officer, Creative Marketing Resources

William Casey, Solid Waste Director, Columbia County

Carol Kubly, General Manager, Waste Management of Wisconsin/Madison

Daniel Meyer, Consultant, Idea Associates

Catherine Onsager, Town Clerk/Treasurer, Town of Shelby

Tracy Toltzman, Senior Engineer, S.C. Johnson

(Note: The following members and the current officers were appointed in 2003)

John S. Piotrowski, Senior. Env. Engineer, Packaging Corp. of America

Cecelia A. Stencil, Rusk County Recycling Coordinator

William A. Swift, Recycling Broker

Charlotte R. Zieve, Retired UW Lecturer in Environmental Studies

COUNCIL ON RECYCLING

2003 ANNUAL REPORT

Executive Summary:

Membership: Seven-members representing business, industry and local governments

Purpose: Advises Governor, legislature, DNR and other agencies on recycling policy

Standing Committees: Construction and Demolition [C&D], Education

Special Committee(s): Recycling of Computers, Televisions and other electronics

Major issues: Recycling of electronics- particularly computers and televisions, product stewardship, recycling of used oil filters and used oil absorbents, and funding of the recycling program.

Background

The Council on Recycling, authorized in s. 287.22 Wis. Stats., is a citizens group appointed by the Governor to advise the Governor, Legislature, and state agencies on solid waste reduction, recovery, and recycling policy. The Council is attached to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) for limited purposes and is staffed by the DNR. Each member appointed to the Council serves a 4-year term expiring on the date of commencement of the next gubernatorial term. Terms of members appointed in the interim also expire on that date. Current membership includes individuals representing industry, business, and local units of government.

Councils that serve in an advisory capacity are required under s. 15.09(3), Wis. Stats., to meet at least annually, although the Council on Recycling has met a minimum of 5 times a year since its first meeting on December 5, 1990. Meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of the month and are open to the public. Council members take an official oath prior to assuming office and are bound by the code of ethics for public officials as provided under Chapter 19, Wis. Stats. The Council conducts business in accordance with its by-laws, Robert's Rules of Order, and the open meeting laws of the state of Wisconsin.

Council Responsibilities and Powers

The Council responsibilities, specified under s. 287.22, Wis. Stats., are to promote the efficient and prompt implementation of state programs related to solid waste reduction, recovery, and recycling, and to advise the Governor and Legislature on such matters. Specifically, the Council has the following duties:

Advise and assist state, county, and municipal officials in coordinating programs and the exchanging of information.

Advise the DNR and the University of Wisconsin System concerning educational efforts and research.

Advise the DNR concerning the development of a statewide plan for public service announcements.

Assist the Recycling Market Development Board if it develops rules.

The statute also provides the Council with powers to execute its duties. The Council may request a status report from any state agency or authority implementing a solid waste reduction, recovery, or recycling program; and the Council may create subcommittees to assist in its work. A subcommittee can be formed from individual Council members, state employees, county and municipality representatives, and others.

State Agencies' Obligations to the Council on Recycling

Section 287.22(4), Wis. Stats., requires state agencies to assist the Council in fulfilling its duties to the fullest extent.

The Council has discussed numerous recycling issues since its inception. Many issues have been discussed for informational purposes and have not required or generated specific action by the Council. On issues where the Council has chosen to take action through the adoption of a recommendation, the approach has been to communicate that position to the Governor's office, the Legislature, state agencies and/or other interested parties.

Activities of the Council, 2003

Discussion of past activities and the positions taken by the Council in 2003 are summarized below. This summary is based on information discussed before the Council at its regular meetings and contained in the minutes. All meeting minutes are public records and are available from the Planning and Evaluation Section, Bureau of Waste Management, DNR.

Overview

The Council was in transition in 2003. Six members ended their tenure and were replaced during 2003. The Council met 6 times in 2003. The departing members met in January (in conjunction with the Associated Recyclers of Wisconsin Annual Training Conference in Wisconsin Dells) and in March in Madison to wrap up their activities. The new Council had its' first meeting in July. The new Council met twice in Madison, once in Bayside and once by conference call. The public was invited to join the conference call in Madison at the DNR central office.

The Council reviewed past Council activities and determined priorities for 2004.

The Council's maintains an e-mail list of 86 people/organizations and also has 5 people on its' mailing list. E-mail/Mailing list recipients receive agendas, minutes and background materials. This is one of the ways the Council keeps organizations and individuals around the state informed of the Council's activities and to invite input to our meetings.

Committees

The Construction and Demolition (C&D) committee (composed of representatives of the demolition industry, builders, contractors, haulers, architects, labor and other interested parties) did not meet in 2003 but the Chair kept the Council abreast of many activities in this area. The Council intends to revitalize this issue in 2004.

The Council reviewed the Task Force on Computers and Other Electronics Recycling report and sent recommendations to the Governor, legislature and the DNR. The Council had previously recommended:

1. A study to determine the nature and scope. DNR and the Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center (SHWEC) are working on this study.
2. Support NEPSI activities. NEPSI is still meeting.
3. Developing state procurement guidelines
4. Diverting electronics using a financing system that is incorporated into the price of the product
5. Phase in ban that would apply to all computers (eliminating the household exemption)
6. Certification system to ensure that there was some certainty that the material was recycled or reused.

Major topics addressed in 2003:

2003 was a transition year for the Council. Because there were six new members the Council spent a significant amount of time reviewing past Council actions and developing a list of priorities for 2004. The Council tentatively identified 4 priorities for 2004. They are:

Computers, Televisions and other electronics
Mercury in products
Paper
Construction and Demolition (C&D)

The Council will also track the progress of the Department of Commerce workgroup on used oil filters and oil absorbents.

Goals Accomplished in 2003:

Seeking implementation of the Council's recommendations on used oil filter and used oil absorbent recycling. The legislature directed the department of commerce to convene a task force to set goals for used oil filter and used oil absorbent recycling. The task force will begin meeting in 2004.

Seeking implementation of the proposals to the legislature on computer and other electronics recycling. Legislation was introduced on electronics recycling. Since the legislation did not pass, the Council is committed to addressing this issue in 2004.

Continuing to monitor and promote Construction and Demolition recycling in Wisconsin. Quite a bit of work was done by a number of groups, including UW-Extension and WasteCap Wisconsin, on this issue. This will be a priority issue for 2004

Providing a forum for discussions on issues affecting recycling programs in Wisconsin. The Council continues to invite local officials and interested parties to address the Council and advance issues of interest to recyclers across Wisconsin.

Building a framework for sustaining the recycling program, including municipal funding and staffing. The Council kept abreast of funding and other issues involving the recycling program at the state and local level

GOALS, 2004

Due to the transitional nature of 2003, the Council did not formalize goals for 2004. The Council did identify the major areas of concern that they will pursue in 2004 those are:

Computers, Televisions and other electronics
Mercury in products
Paper
Construction and Demolition (C&D)

CONCLUDING THOUGHTS:

The Council on Recycling has six new members for 2004. The Council has identified the major issues it intends to pursue. The Council will also serve as a forum for organizations and individuals to discuss the significant issues of the day. The Council will continue to give advice and seek solutions for the difficulties facing recycling in Wisconsin today.

DIRECTORY

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Elected Officers/Executive Committee for 2002:

Daniel Meyer, Chair
John Reindl, Vice-Chair
William Casey, Secretary

COUNCIL ON RECYCLING 2003

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Vice Chair: Jeffery Fielkow
Secretary: Susan Hundt Bergan